

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
NOV 23 2009

S/N: 10/563,564

Page 2 of 6

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sample analysis tool comprising:

a strip-shaped substrate;

at least one 1 to 8 reagent pads provided on the substrate; and

at least one 1 to 3 balance pads provided on the substrate,

wherein the at least one reagent pad(s) is provided on a first end portion of the substrate;

and the balance pad(s) are provided on the substrate,

the substrate and the reagent pad(s) are formed of different materials,

the reagent pad(s) are provided on a first end portion on a surface of the substrate, and arranged along a longitudinal direction of the substrate and concentrated at the first end portion of the substrate when 2 to 8 reagents pads are present, so that a friction coefficient of the portion on the surface where the reagent pad(s) are provided is higher than a friction coefficient of the surface of the substrate where the reagent pad(s) are not provided, and

the at least one balance pad(s) [[is]] are provided on a second end portion of the substrate opposite to the first end portion at a distance from the at least one reagent pad(s), and one of the balance pad(s) is provided at an end of the second end portion of the substrate, so that adjusts at least one of weight balance and friction balance of the surface of the sample analysis tool on which the reagent pad(s) are provided is adjusted, and so as to avoid clogging when the sample analysis tool is supplied by a test piece feeder to an examination location is avoided.

2-5. Canceled

6. (Currently Amended) The sample analysis tool according to claim 1, wherein the at least one reagent pad contains pad(s) contain a reagent for a urinalysis, a biochemical test, a microorganism test, an immunological test, a genetic analysis, an environmental test, a test for an

S/N: 10/563,564

Page 3 of 6

agricultural chemical, or an allergen test.

7. (Currently Amended) The sample analysis tool according to claim 6, wherein the reagent is suitable for urinalysis testing for at least one selected from the group consisting of glucose (GLU), protein (PRO), bilirubin (BIL), urobilinogen (URO), pH, occult blood (BLD), ketone bodies (KET), nitrite (NIT), leukocytes (LEU), S.G. (specific gravity), a color tone, ascorbic acid, a salt concentration, highly-sensitive protein, albumin, creatinine, Bence-Jones protein, hormones, and physiologically active substances, and

the at least one of the reagent pad(s) is provided for each selected test item.

8. (Original) The sample analysis tool according to claim 1, which is analyzed by an analyzer.

9-13. Canceled

14. (New) The sample analysis tool according to claim 1, further comprising a marker provided on the substrate for discriminating front and rear surfaces of the substrate.

15. (New) A sample analysis tool in combination with a sample analyzer by which the strip-shaped sample analysis tool is fed in a direction orthogonal to a longitudinal direction of the sample analysis tool to be analyzed, the tool comprising:

a strip-shaped substrate; and

at least one reagent pad and at least one balance pad,

wherein the at least one reagent pad is provided on a first end portion of the substrate, and the at least one balance pad is provided on a second end portion of the substrate opposite to the first end portion, so that friction balance of a surface of the sample analysis tool on which the at least one reagent pad is provided is adjusted, whereby the sample analysis tool is allowed to move on a feeding mechanism in the analyzer while maintaining the direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction of the sample analysis tool.